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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MED-ICAL RESEARCH PRODUCTS-B, INC. [US/US]; 12744 San Fernando Road, Building 3, Sylmar, CA 91342 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): SLATTERY, William, H., M.D., III [US/US]; 2100 W. Third Street, Los Angeles, CA 90057 (US). VIDAL, Claude, A. [US/US]; 5426 San Patricio Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 (US). REDMOND, Russell, J. [US/US]; 1148 North Fairview Avenue, Goleta, CA 93117 (US). MORAN, Byron, L.; 1414 Camino Meleno, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 (US).

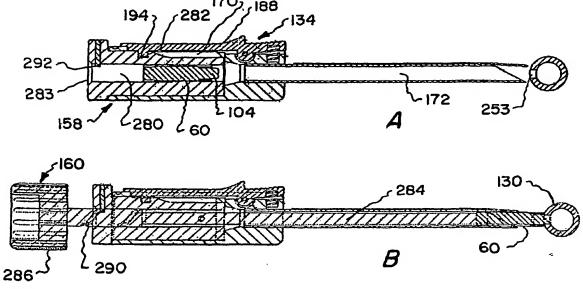
- (74) Agent: FREILICH, Arthur; Freilich, Hornbaker & Rosen, Suite 260, 9045 Corbin Avenue, Northridge, CA 91324 (US).
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ.

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT SET AND PROCEDURE FOR IMPLANTING SOUND TRANSDUCER PROXIMATE TO PATIENT'S OUTER EAR CANAL



(57) Abstract: A hearing aid system (10) including an implantable device (60), and a surgical instrument (134) for enabling a physician to install the implant (60) in a patient's body in a simple office procedure using only local anesthesia.

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CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

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